

MARY BROGGAN.

JUNE 16, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. TURNER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 7844.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7844) granting a pension to Mary Broggan, have examined the same and report:

The claimant is the widow of Francis Broggan, late a corporal in the Ordnance Corps, United States Army, and who died May 5, 1888, from chronic bronchitis incurred in the line of his duty during his service, which covered the period from November 27, 1869, to March 19, 1887.

Mrs. Broggan was granted a pension in 1888 at \$12 per month, with \$2 additional for each of two minor children. Both of these children are now over the age of 16 years, and the increased allowance on their account has ceased. It is alleged, however, that the child, Francis Caroline, whose pensionable minority ended January 25, 1895, is in such a condition of permanent helplessness that the increased allowance on her account should continue under the letter and spirit of the act of June 27, 1890, but the claimant's application for same at the Pension Bureau has been disallowed by the medical referee, notwithstanding the fact that the examiner in charge of the case submitted it for admission.

The testimony on file at the Pension Bureau and additional proof accompanying the bill shows that the child in question is under the care of the claimant; that she is a sufferer from chorea, or St. Vitus dance, and from paralysis of left leg, arising in infancy, and causing such atrophy and weakness of the leg as to necessitate the use of steel rods from the shoe to the knee.

It further appears that the mother of the child (this beneficiary) is about 57 years old, blind in one eye, and dependent almost entirely upon her small pension for the support of herself and helpless daughter.

In addition to the service described above the deceased soldier rendered two terms of honorable volunteer service in the civil war, and then in the infantry arm of the Regular Army from 1866 to 1869.

The passage of the bill is recommended with an amendment, in line 5, as follows: "the same to be in lieu of the amount she is now receiving."